

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

78-5249/6

19 DEC 1978

Mr. Michael J. Sandoval
Staff Assistant to
Congressman Norman Y. Mineta
1245 S. Winchester Boulevard
Suite 310
San Jose, CA 95128

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FOIA
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Dear Mr. Sandoval:

The Director has asked me to reply to Congressman Mineta's letter of 27 November requesting, in behalf of his constituent,

[REDACTED]

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By separate letter, a copy of which is enclosed, we are notifying [REDACTED] that we have received Congressman Mineta's request and will search for any information available under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act.

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You will note that we have advised [REDACTED] that a serious backlog in such requests will probably delay our reply far beyond the statutory time limits of the Freedom of Information Act. The Agency has diverted over a hundred man-years annually to replying to FOI requests, but there are currently almost 3000 requests in the backlog. The Agency's popularity as a subject for news stories has resulted in a flood of requests, which we have not as yet been able to overcome.

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Our Freedom of Information Coordinator will provide a final response to [REDACTED] request as soon as our review is completed.

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Sincerely,

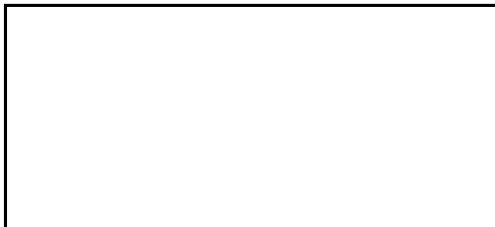
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Frederick P. Hitz
Legislative Counsel

Enclosure

8 DEC 1978

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STAT

Congressman Norman Y. Mineta has written to the Director on your behalf asking the Central Intelligence Agency to look for information in our files concerning your late brother, [REDACTED]. The letter was referred to my office for direct response.

We will search all appropriate files for information on your brother, but you could help us very much if you could provide additional biographic information on him. At a minimum, we need his date and place of birth; anything additional would be appreciated.

As you may know, the heavy volume of Freedom of Information requests received by the Agency has resulted in processing backlogs. Since we will be unable to respond within the 10 working days stipulated by the Act, it is your right to construe this as a denial, subject to appeal to the CIA Information Review Committee. It would seem more reasonable, however, for us to continue processing your request and to respond as soon as feasible. Any denials of records could be appealed at that time. Unless we hear from you otherwise, we will assume that this is agreeable to you and proceed on this basis.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Information and Privacy Coordinator

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